



The Strategy to Secure Offshore Energy Act **Rep. Beth Van Duyne**

Despite the vast energy resources in the United States, since his first day on the job President Biden's anti-energy policies have disrupted domestic oil and gas production. Gas prices have continued to rise for Americans since Joe Biden took office. In spite of rising energy costs, the Biden administration continues to slow walk necessary oil and gas permits and has issued *zero* new onshore or offshore leases. Biden's actions have stymied America's energy potential and left us vulnerable to foreign adversaries.

Relying on Russia and other adversaries to meet energy demand has had devastating consequences, as the war in Europe continues to threaten global security and economic stability. The U.S. has vast energy resources that are critically needed at home and abroad. To lower American energy prices and support our allies abroad, Congress must take immediate action to remove barriers to development of domestic oil and gas production.

The Department of the Interior (DOI) manages the offshore oil and gas program by establishing leasing schedules for 5-year periods, known as the National Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Oil and Gas Leasing Program and commonly referred to as the "five-year plan." Publishing and following the five-year plan is necessary to provide certainty for the offshore energy industry and to keep energy prices low for consumers. The Biden administration is not on track to publish the new "five-year plan" before the current one expires in June of 2022. This bill will require prompt publication of the five-year plan for 2022-2027 and set requirements and timelines for developing and publishing subsequent plans.

Major provisions:

- Requires the publication of the five-year plan for 2022-2027 no later than June 30, 2022, the date the current plan expires.
- Requires that five-year plans include at least two lease sales per year.
- Requires that DOI begin preparation of the next five-year plan within 36 months of the first lease sale under a current five-year plan.
- Requires each five-year plan be approved not later than 180 days before the expiration of the preceding plan.

To cosponsor any of these bills, or for additional information, contact House Natural Resources Committee Republican Staff at Ashley.Nichols@mail.house.gov.

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